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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

STERILIZATION OF TYPHOID STOOLS

DEAR EDITOR: This seems to me the best and most economical method of sterilizing typhoid discharges that has come to my notice. I mean, of course, for private houses, where sterilizing by steam cannot be done. I thought there might be many nurses who would be glad to know of it, as chemical disinfection is so unreliable and expensive.

Massachusetts.

L. L. J.

"To a typhoid stool, add about a cupful of commercial unslaked lime and hot water (60°C.) enough to cover the stool. Cover the receptacle and allow to stand two hours. The hydration of the lime will have generated enough heat to sterilize the stool. An earthen vessel is better than tin. It holds the heat longer. The lime should be in lumps and broken up and scattered over the stool."

This is vouched for by Harry Linenthal, M.D., Massachusetts State Inspector of Health, and Henry N. Jones, Bacteriologist to Massachusetts State Board of Health.

VALUE IN RARE OLD STAMPS

DEAR EDITOR: "A Fortune in Your Garret" sounds interesting, and is more than interesting to the nurse who spends a rainy day in the garret, looking through old letters, probably the accumulation of years, to find a stamp so rare that a present-day collector will pay anywhere from \$7.50 to \$12.00 for it. Such good luck has by no means fallen to my lot, but the study of the stamps which I did find, and the consulting with collectors concerning their value, have revealed the fact that there is some money in cancelled stamps, provided they are uncommon ones. I will pass along some of the information I received, hoping some other nurse may be so fortunate as to find, among her apparently useless papers, a "Millbury," the rarest American stamp, a "Brattleboro," a "Goliad," a "Pleasant Shade, Virginia," a "Rheatown, Tennessee," or some of the less valuable ones of more recent date, which may also amount to something, if one has enough of them. Rare foreign ones are also of value, the triangular "Cape of Good Hope" especially so. A stamp on its original envelope or wrapper is worth much more than a loose one, which might be an imitation.

Pennsylvania.

M. E. H.

GRADUATE NURSES' CLUBS

DEAR EDITOR: In the January number of the JOURNAL, I noticed a request from the nurses of Waterbury, Connecticut, asking for information as to Nurses' Clubs, run on the same principle as theirs, and felt it might be of interest to them to know of the Toronto Graduate Nurses Club of Toronto, Canada.

About six years ago the Toronto nurses felt the great want of a social center and central meeting place, so they set to work to get the ever-needful funds and by means of a large bazaar raised about \$4,000. They then drew up a charter and sold shares, about fifty nurses subscribing, and with this as a nucleus they started.